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April declared Michigan Wine Month

LANSING – April 2006 has been declared Michigan Wine Month under Senate Resolution 118 passed by the Senate, said Sen. Michelle McManus, R-Lake Leelanau.

“Michigan’s vineyards and wineries are an integral part of Michigan’s economy and we wanted to recognize the growing industry and those who contribute to its success,” said McManus, sponsor of the resolution. “With the recent rulings to allow wine to be shipped directly to consumers, we thought this was an appropriate time to show our support.”

Michigan's grape-growing industry began in the southwestern part of Michigan in the mid-nineteenth century, and today has grown to include 45 wineries and an additional 16 tasting rooms located throughout the state, including four federally-recognized viticultural areas in Michigan: Fennville, Lake Michigan Shore, Leelanau Peninsula, and Old Mission Peninsula.

These areas all contribute to Michigan’s agricultural tourism industry and produce a wide selection of quality wines including reds, whites, blushes, and sparkling and even nonalcoholic juices.

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